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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/712,112      | 11/13/2003  | George H. Corrigan   | 10010484-2          | 7670             |

7590 11/02/2005  
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LAM S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2853

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

**Advisory Action  
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10712,112

Applicant(s)

CORRIGAN, GEORGE H.

Examiner

LAM S. NGUYEN

Art Unit

2853

**-The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -**

THE REPLY FILED 17 October 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1.  The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a)  The period for reply expires \_\_\_\_\_ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b)  The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

2.  The Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

**AMENDMENTS**

- 3.  The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
  - (a)  They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
  - (b)  They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
  - (c)  They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
  - (d)  They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

- 4.  The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
- 5.  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6.  Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
- 7.  For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a)  will not be entered, or b)  will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.  
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:  
Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) rejected: \_\_\_\_\_.  
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

**AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE**

- 8.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
- 9.  The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
- 10.  The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER**

- 11.  The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
See Continuation Sheet.
- 12.  Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 13.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: First of all, the applicant argued that Bohorquez does not teach or suggest that the signal at positive input of element 16 in FIG. 3 is an offset voltage. The examiner does not agree with the above assertion. As based on the definition that "offset" is "something that serves to counterbalance or to compensate for something else" (Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, page 805), any electrical signal, either discrete or continuous, digital or analog, unipolar or bipolar, that has a voltage value and being used as an input to adjust "something" in order to compensate for "something else" is considered as "an offset voltage". In this case, Bohorquez' control signal, the signal at positive input of element 16 in FIG. 3, inherently has a voltage value and is used as the input of the level shifting circuit 16 to adjust the signal (something) applied to the driver circuit 18, which in turn applies the adjusted voltage to the heater resistor RH (column 3, lines 60-68) in order to compensate for the energy losses in the power and return lines (something else). As a result, Bohorquez' control signal is an offset voltage by definition.

In addition, the applicant also argued that Suzuki uses the power supply to provide the driving pulse signal p, not an offset voltage. However, the main point of Suzuki's teaching is that it cures the Bohorquez's shortcoming of taking the voltage sample directly from the internal power supply path rather than for providing an offset voltage purpose. Moreover, both Bohorquez and Suzuki have a common function/operation that is directly or indirectly sampling the voltage at the power supply, then adjusting the driving energy in accordance to that voltage sample.

Finally, the applicant argued that both Bohorquez and Suzuki do not teach or suggest a self-calibration circuit. In response, the examiner points out that this shortcoming is cured by the compensation of Doluca's teaching, which the applicant did not argued about.

LN  
10/21/05

*Hai Pham*

HAI PHAM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER